

Testudines

AGE AT MATURITY - How long before the species reaches sexual maturity?

Species	Common Name	Age At Maturity
Cheloniidae	sea turtles	
<i>Caretta c. caretta</i>	Atlantic loggerhead	captives have been predicted to mature in 16-17 years (Frazer and Schwartz 1984); wild North American <i>Caretta</i> seem to reach mature size in 10-30 years (Mendonca 1981; Frazer 1983; Zug et al. 1983, 1986; Frazer and Ehrhart 1985)
<i>Chelonia m. mydas</i>	Atlantic green turtle	Sexual maturity in both sexes of <i>Chelonia</i> is reached sometimes between 6 and 13 years in captivity (Wood and Wood 1980), but most probably mature at an older age in the wild. Ehrhardt and Witham (1992) estimated age of maturity in free living Atlantic green turtles is between 19 and 24 (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Eretmochelys i. imbricata</i>	Atlantic hawksbill	Carr (1952) thought Costa Rican <i>Eretmochelys</i> mature sexually at three years of age...and Witzell (1980) thought Samoan <i>Eretmochelys</i> mature at...3.5 years of age (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	Kemp's ridley or Atlantic ridley	captives of both sexes have gained maturity in five to seven years (Wood and Wood 1988); wild individuals may need 10-12 years to mature (Márquez 1990; Zug 1991)
Dermochelyidae	leatherback sea turtles	
<i>Dermochelys c. coriacea</i>	Atlantic leatherback	Unk (Ernst et al. 1994)
Chelydridae	snapping turtles	
<i>Chelydra s. serpentina</i>	eastern snapping turtle	males...mature at four or five years of age (Christiansen and Burken 1979); the youngest known age of maturity for females...is 12 years (Congdon et al. 1987)
Emydidae	pond turtles	
<i>Chrysemys p. picta</i>	eastern painted turtle	Males 3-5 yrs. (plastron M 70 - 95 mm, Moll 1973), Females 6-10 yrs, 97 - 128 mm (Cagle 1954) (see also Ernst et al. 1994, p. 287)

<i>Chrysemys p. marginata</i>	midland painted turtle	Males 3-5 yrs. (plastron M 70 - 95 mm, Moll 1973), Females 6-10 yrs, 97 - 128 mm (Cagle 1954) (see also Ernst et al. 1994, p. 287)
<i>Clemmys guttata</i>	spotted turtle	both sexes mature by the time they grow to a carapace length of 8.0 cm, probably in about 7-10 years (Ernst 1970; Ernst and Zug 1994)
<i>Clemmys insculpta</i>	wood turtle	both sexes mature between the ages of 14 and 18 years (Garber 1989; Farrell and Graham 1991; Ross et al. 1991; Brooks et al. 1992)
<i>Clemmys muhlenbergii</i>	bog turtle	bog turtles in Pennsylvania mature at a plastron length of about 7.0 cm, a size attained by some individuals of both sexes during the sixth year of growth (Ernst 1977); in New Jersey, males may mature in the fourth year at a minimum size of 6.5 cm, and most females mature in the fourth or fifth year at a minimum size of 7.0 cm (Holub and Bloomer 1977)
<i>Deirochelys r. reticularia</i>	eastern chicken turtle	females about five years...males two to three years (Gibbons 1969)
<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Blanding's turtle	the youngest Michigan female found in its first mature season was 14 years old (Congdon and van Loben Sels 1993); females in Wisconsin appear to mature...at a minimum age of 18 years (Ross 1989); suspected that male Blanding's turtles in Massachusetts matured...in the 12th year of growth (Graham and Doyle 1977)
<i>Graptemys geographica</i>	northern map turtle	F - 14+ yrs (Newman 1906); M -?
<i>Graptemys ouachitensis</i>	Ouachita map turtle	In OK, M - 2nd or 3rd yr; F - 6th or 7th yrs (Webb 1961)
<i>Malaclemys terrapin terrapin</i>	northern diamond-backed terrapin	M - approx. 3rd yr. (Cagle 1952a; Seigel 1984; Lovich and Gibbons 1990) ; F - approx. 6th yr. (Cagle 1952a; Montevecchi and Burger 1975; Lovich and Gibbons 1990)
<i>Pseudemys c. concinna</i>	eastern river cooter	Smallest size of mature F was 14 cm carapace; mature M 14.6 cm carapace (Jackson 1970)
<i>Pseudemys c. floridana</i>	coastal plain cooter	M - reached in 3 or 4 yrs; F - 5 to 7 yrs (Jackson 1988a)
<i>Pseudemys rubriventris</i>	northern red-bellied cooter	M - probably mature around age 9 (Graham 1971) F - unknown
<i>Terrapene c. carolina</i>	eastern box turtle	5-10 years (Minton 1972)
<i>Trachemys s. scripta</i>	yellow-bellied slider	8 years f & 3-5 years m (Gibbons & Greene 1979)

<i>Trachemys s. elegans</i>	red-eared slider	8 years f & 3-5 years m (Gibbons & Greene 1979)
<i>Trachemys s. troosti</i>	cumberland slider	8 years f & 3-5 years m (Gibbons & Greene 1979)
Kinosternidae	mud and musk turtles	
<i>Kinosternon s. subrubrum</i>	eastern mud turtle	attainment of sexual maturity may vary in its onset from population to population...both males and females reach maturity during their fourth year in South Carolina (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Kinosternon baurii</i>	striped mud turtle	wild female <i>Kinosternon baurii</i> mature...in five or six years (Iverson 1979); wild males contain mature sperm when 75 mm long (Einem 1956); captive males have matured at 23 months of age, and captive females at 29 months (Praschag 1983)
<i>Sternotherus minor peltifer</i>	stripeneck musk turtle	males mature...in four years (3-9; Etchberger and Stovall 1990; Cox et al. 1991); females mature at an average age of eight (5-9 years) (Tinkle 1958; Etchberger and Ehrhart 1987; Etchberger 1988; Cox et al. 1991)
<i>Sternotherus odoratus</i>	stinkpot or common musk turtle	males mature in three or four years (Risley 1933; Tinkle 1961); Virginia males first produced sperm at the end of their second year (Ernst et al. 1994); females mature in 2-7 years (Tinkle 1961)
Trionychidae	softshell turtles	
<i>Apalone m. mutica</i>	midland smooth softshell	males mature in their fourth year...females mature in their ninth year (Plummer 1977c)
<i>Apalone s. spinifera</i>	eastern spiny softshell	8-10 yrs (Behler and King 1998)

Age At Maturity Codes: State in years; can specify range or average if available. Specify if age at maturity differs between males (M) and females (F), Unk = unknown